

D. *Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) and Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)*

1. WHO shall establish a Scientific Advisory Panel comprising scientists in disciplines connected with the Programme who may be called upon as necessary to advise on scientific and technical matters related to the Onchocerciasis Control Programme.

2. To provide the JCC with a continuous independent evaluation of the technical aspects of the Programme, WHO shall further establish a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee composed of twelve members selected from the Scientific Advisory Panel, due regard being paid to the concerns of the JCC and the importance of assuring for the Committee a broad representation of disciplines connected with the Programme as well as ensuring a balanced geographical distribution.

3. (i) Members of the STAC shall serve for a period of two years, without prejudice to reappointment.
- (ii) The STAC shall elect a chairman from its members at each session, without prejudice to reelection.
- (iii) WHO shall provide the secretariat of the STAC.
- (iv) Costs of the STAC shall be borne by the Fund.
4. (i) The STAC shall meet twice a year. Additional meetings may be called by WHO in consultation with the Chairman of the STAC.
- (ii) WHO shall make such arrangements as shall be appropriate or necessary for visits by members of the STAC to the Programme area.
- (iii) After reviewing all technical and scientific aspects of the Programme, including the reports of its own field missions, the STAC shall prepare an annual report for the JCC containing its findings and recommendations. The report shall be initially submitted to WHO, which will forward it, with its comments thereon, to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall transmit the report, with its observations, to the JCC not less than forty-five days before the JCC's annual meeting.
- (iv) The Chairman of the STAC, or in his absence a member of the STAC deputed to act for him, shall attend all meetings of the JCC.

# Onchocerciasis Fund Agreement

DATED MAY 7, 1975

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## ONCHOCERCIASIS FUND AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT between the Governments of the KINGDOM OF BELGIUM, CANADA, the REPUBLIC OF FRANCE, the FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, JAPAN, KUWAIT, the KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AFDB), the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (the Bank), the INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (the Association), the UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) and the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO).

WHEREAS (A) the Report of the Mission for Preparatory Assistance to the Governments of Dahomey, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Togo and Upper Volta (hereinafter referred to collectively as the Participating Governments) proposes a strategy for Onchocerciasis Control in the Volta River Basin Area and for the future economic development of reclaimed areas (hereinafter called the Programme);

(B) on November 1, 1973, the Participating Governments entered into an Agreement Governing the Operations of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme in the Volta River Basin Area (hereinafter called the Operational Agreement and attached as Annex II hereto) to which WHO is also a Party and, pursuant to such Agreement, have endorsed the role of (i) the Bank to assist in finding external assistance to finance the cost of the Programme and (ii) WHO to act as the Executing Agency for the carrying out of the Programme;

(C) pursuant to the Onchocerciasis 1974 Fund Agreement, certain governments and organizations parties thereto agreed to undertake certain obligations regarding the carrying out and the financing of operations relating to the Programme for the calendar year 1974;

(D) a plan of action for the years 1974-1979 of the Programme (hereinafter called the first stage of the Programme) has been prepared and is appended hereto as Annex I;

(E) pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding dated February 11, 1975 (hereinafter called the Memorandum of Understanding, appended hereto as Annex III) describing certain of the major features of the management structures for the Programme, certain governments and organizations (whose names are listed in Appendix I to the Memorandum of Understanding) have organized a group entitled the Joint Co-ordinating Committee;

(F) each of the Governments party to this Agreement, the AFDB, the Bank and/or the Association and the UNDP have agreed to assist in the financing of the cost of the first stage of the Programme, at present evaluated at about fifty-four million dollars;

(G) (i) WHO has agreed to act as Executing Agency in carrying out the Programme; and (ii) the Bank has agreed to establish and administer an Onchocerciasis Fund consisting of the contributions of donor governments and institutions;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE I**

### **Definitions**

Section 1.01. Except where the context otherwise requires, the following terms have the following meanings wherever used in this Agreement:

(1) "Onchocerciasis 1974 Fund Agreement" means the agreement dated March 1, 1974 between the Governments of Canada, the Republic of France, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Bank, the Association, the UNDP and WHO, which agreement has been acceded to by the Federal Republic of Germany on August 14, 1974, the Republic of Iraq on October 4, 1974 and the Kingdom of Belgium on January 22, 1975.

(2) "Parties" means the Governments and institutions named in the Preamble to this Agreement and any other government or institution which shall become a party to this Agreement pursuant to Article X.

(3) "Contributing Parties" means those Parties who agree to make contributions to the Fund pursuant to this Agreement.

(4) "Fund" means the Onchocerciasis Fund established by this Agreement.

(5) "JCC" means the Joint Co-ordinating Committee constituted pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Establishment of the Onchocerciasis Fund**

Section 2.01. There is hereby established the Onchocerciasis Fund, constituted by the monies which the Contributing Parties shall from time to time contribute to the Fund in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement,

together with any additions thereto and any other assets or receipts of the Fund, to be held in trust and administered by the Bank and used only for the purposes, and in accordance with the provisions, of this Agreement.

Section 2.02. The Fund and its assets and accounts shall be kept separate and apart from all other accounts and assets of the Bank and shall be separately designated in such appropriate manner as the Bank shall determine.

Section 2.03. The Bank shall exercise the same care in the administration and management of the Fund and in the discharge of its other functions under this Agreement as it exercises in respect of the administration and management of its own affairs.

### ARTICLE III

#### Contributions to the Fund; Disbursements from the Account; Annual Report

Section 3.01. (a) Each of the Governments specified below and the Bank have paid to the Account opened by the Bank for the purposes of Onchocerciasis 1974 Fund Agreement the amount specified opposite its name below:

Belgium	BF	5,000,000
Canada	Can\$	500,000
France	F	5,000,000
Federal Republic of Germany	DM	3,000,000
Iraq	US\$	50,000
Netherlands	US\$	1,000,000
United Kingdom	£	425,000
United States	US\$	1,000,000
The Bank	US\$	375,000
The Association	US\$	375,000

(b) Any monies credited to the Account referred to in paragraph (a) of this Section and remaining undisbursed on the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be credited to the Fund by the Bank.

Section 3.02. (a) The Federal Republic of Germany has obtained parliamentary approval to make additional contributions to the Fund and to pay, subject to possible adjustments pursuant to Section 3.03 of this Agreement, the following amounts in the years specified below, namely:

year 1975	DM	3,000,000
year 1976	DM	3,000,000
year 1977	DM	4,000,000

(b) The Republic of France has indicated that it is in a position to make a total contribution to the Fund of twenty-six million French Francs (F26,000,000) to meet the cost of the first stage of the Programme, i.e. approximately ten per cent (10%) of such cost.

(c) Canada has undertaken, subject to the annual approval of Parliament, to make a contribution to the Fund in the amount of three million Canadian dollars (Can\$3,000,000) to meet the cost of expenditures for the carrying out of the first stage of the Programme.

(d) Kuwait has undertaken to make a contribution to the Fund in the amount of six million United States dollars (US\$6,000,000) to meet the cost of expenditures for the carrying out of the first stage of the Programme.

(e) The Netherlands has undertaken, subject to parliamentary approval, to make a total contribution to the Fund in the amount of six million United States dollars (US\$6,000,000) to meet the cost of expenditures for the carrying out of the first stage of the Programme.

(f) The United Kingdom has undertaken to make an additional contribution to the Fund in an amount which, when taken together with its previous contribution of £425,000, will correspond to two-fifteenths of the expenditures arising in the Programme in the year 1974 and one-tenth of those arising in the year 1975. The United Kingdom has also indicated that it will sympathetically consider making further contributions to the Fund in respect of costs during the first stage of the Programme.

(g) Subject to the approval of the Executive Directors of the Bank and/or the Association, the President of the Bank and the Association has undertaken

that the Bank and/or the Association make additional contributions to the Fund up to an amount corresponding to ten per cent (10%) of the cost of the first stage of the Programme.

(h) The AFDB has agreed to contribute to the Fund, by the way of grant, nine hundred thousand (900,000) units of account to meet expenditures for the carrying out of the first stage of the Programme.

(i) Each of the Contributing Parties specified below undertakes, subject to legislative approval or other action, to contribute to the Fund for the year 1975 the amount specified opposite its name below:

Belgium	BF	5,000,000
Japan	US\$	500,000
United States	US\$	1,000,000

(j) Each of the Contributing Parties specified in paragraph (i) of this Section will sympathetically consider making additional contributions to the Fund in each year of the Programme commencing January 1, 1976, all in accordance with the recommendations contained in the proposed plan of action and the estimated budget for each year prepared by WHO pursuant to Section 4.04 of this Agreement.

Section 3.03. (a) At the time of the annual meeting of the JCC or as soon as possible thereafter, an understanding shall be reached between the Bank and each Contributing Party on the amount, if any, expected to be contributed by it during the following year and on the time or times at which payment should be made, such understanding to be subject, as necessary, to the approval of the appropriate legislative authorities.

(b) The Bank may include in its estimates of the amounts required to be paid in any year pursuant to this Section such sums as it shall consider necessary or desirable to establish and maintain a reasonable reserve against an excess of actual expenditures over the estimates of such expenditures.

Section 3.04. The Contributing Parties agree to accept the Bank's decisions as to the estimated requirements of the Fund, and of the reserve required, for the purposes of this Agreement.

Section 3.05. (a) The Bank shall within 90 days after December 31, 1975 and each December 31 thereafter send to each of the Contributing Parties and to the Steering Committee a statement of contributions to, receipts of, and



disbursements from, the Fund. The Bank shall, as soon as possible thereafter, send to such Contributing Parties and to the Steering Committee a supplementary statement certified by the Bank's external auditors.

(b) The Bank shall, within 30 days after June 1, 1975 and each June 1 thereafter, send to each of the Contributing Parties and to the Steering Committee an interim statement of contributions to, receipts of, and disbursements from, the Fund.

Section 3.06. The Bank shall pay to, or on the order of, WHO out of the monies in the Fund amounts for payment to be made by WHO for the first stage of the Programme in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

Section 3.07. When WHO shall desire to withdraw any amount from the Fund, WHO shall deliver to the Bank a written application therefor. Except as the Bank and WHO shall otherwise agree, any such application shall be submitted on a quarterly basis on account of estimated payments to be made during the following quarter.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Undertakings of WHO

Section 4.01. WHO shall continue to serve as Executing Agency for the Programme and in that capacity to carry out those functions described in the Operational Agreement.

Section 4.02. (a) Amounts disbursed from the Fund shall be used by WHO exclusively to finance the cost of goods and services required to carry out the first stage of the Programme.

(b) WHO shall furnish to the Bank all such information as the Bank shall reasonably request concerning the expenditure of the monies disbursed from the Fund.

Section 4.03. WHO shall not, in respect of any year of the first stage of the Programme, incur obligations against the Fund in excess of the amount of funds committed to the Fund.

Section 4.04. (a) WHO shall submit annually to the Steering Committee (i) a report containing appropriate information concerning the progress made in carrying out the first stage of the Programme and (ii) an estimated budget for the following year.

(b) The Steering Committee will review those documents in time to allow their distribution to all members of the JCC not less than 30 days before the date of the annual meeting of the JCC.

## ARTICLE V

### Undertaking of UNDP

Section 5.01. UNDP shall, subject to its internal policies, its procedures, the availability of funds and pursuant to an agreement to be concluded with the Participating Governments, provide and bear the cost of expenditures for training and chemotherapeutic research. UNDP's participation during the first three years of the Programme is at present set at one million two hundred thousand dollars (US\$1,200,000).

## ARTICLE VI

### Consultation and Termination

Section 6.01. The following events are hereby specified as events for the purposes of Section 6.02 of this Agreement:

(a) WHO shall have determined that a situation exists which makes it improbable that the first stage of the Programme can be completed;

(b) the Bank shall have determined that the resources of the Fund are insufficient to meet the estimated cost of the first stage of the Programme; or

(c) WHO and/or the Bank shall have determined that circumstances have arisen which make it impossible, or impracticable, for WHO and/or the Bank to carry on their respective duties hereunder in an efficient manner.

Section 6.02. (a) If any of the events specified in Section 6.01 of this Agreement shall have happened, WHO and/or the Bank shall promptly notify the other Parties hereto and the Bank may by notice to said Parties suspend disbursements from the Fund in whole or in part, provided, however, that such suspension, if any, shall not apply to amounts relating to obligations theretofore incurred by WHO for the first stage of the Programme.

(b) The Parties hereto shall forthwith consult with one another concerning measures to be taken to correct the situation. A majority of the Contributing Parties shall have the power to decide that any suspension imposed by the Bank pursuant

to subsection (a) of this Section 6.02 shall be removed. The Bank shall act in accordance with such decision; pending such decision the suspension shall continue.

(c) If (i) any of the events specified in Section 6.01(a) and (b) of this Agreement shall continue and a similar majority of the contributing Parties shall decide that it is not likely to be corrected; or (ii) WHO and/or the Bank, after consultation with the other Parties, shall decide that the circumstances specified in Section 6.01(c) of this Agreement are not likely to be corrected and shall so notify the other Parties, the obligations of (A) the Parties to make contributions to the Fund and (B) WHO and the Bank under this Agreement shall cease, subject: (i) in the case of the Bank to subsection (d) of this Section; and (ii) in the case of the Contributing Parties to pay their respective contributions to the Fund to the extent required to enable WHO to make payments on account of obligations theretofore incurred by WHO for the first stage of the Programme.

(d) The Bank, promptly after termination of its obligations pursuant to subsection (c) of this Section and after making provision for amounts to be paid by WHO on account of obligations theretofore incurred by WHO for the first stage of the Programme, shall transfer all monies and other assets then remaining in the Fund to such person or entity as the other Parties shall designate to the Bank for the purpose of this Section or, failing such designation within six months after the date of the Bank's notice, to the Contributing Parties in the manner prescribed in Section 6.04 of this Agreement.

Section 6.03. Subject to Section 6.04 hereof, this Agreement, unless sooner terminated pursuant to Section 6.02(c) hereof, shall terminate upon completion of the first stage of the Programme or upon disbursement from the Fund of all amounts required to meet payments to be made by WHO for the first stage of the Programme, whichever is earlier.

Section 6.04. If at termination any amounts shall remain in the Fund not required to meet payments to be made by WHO, the Bank shall, after consultation with the other Contributing Parties, determine the amounts, times, methods and currencies of payment.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Additional Parties and Contributions**

Section 7.01. Any government, institution or entity not a Party to this Agreement, may in accordance with such arrangements as shall be agreed with the Bank, become a Contributing Party upon deposit with the Bank of an instrument stating that it accepts all the provisions hereof and agrees to be bound thereby.

Section 7.02. The Bank may receive on behalf of the Fund from any government, institution or entity, whether or not a Party, amounts not provided for herein to be held and used as part of the Fund subject to the provisions hereof, in accordance with such arrangements, not inconsistent herewith, as the Bank may approve.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Notices and Requests

Section 8.01. Any notice or request required or permitted to be given or made under this Agreement shall be in writing. Such notice or request shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when it shall be delivered by hand or by mail, telegram, cable, telex or radiogram to the Party to which it is required or permitted to be given or made at such Party's address specified in Section 8.02 or at such other address as such Party shall have designated by notice to the Party giving such notice or making such request.

Section 8.02. The following addresses are specified for the purposes of Section 8.01:

For the Governments of:

Kingdom of Belgium:

Administration Générale de la  
Coopération au Développement  
Pl. du Champ de Mars 5  
1050 Bruxelles, Belgium

Canada:

Canadian International Development  
Agency  
122 Bank Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1 AOG4

Cable Address: CIDA

Republic of France:

Fonds d'Aide et de Coopération  
Ministère de la Coopération  
20, rue Monsieur  
75700 Paris, France

Cable Address: MINDELCOOP

Federal Republic of Germany:

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche  
Zusammenarbeit  
D.O. 53 Bonn 12, Postfach 120322  
Federal Republic of Germany      Cable Address: BMZ

Japan:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Tokyo  
Japan      Cable Address: GAIMUDAIJIN

Kuwait:

Kuwait Development Fund  
P.O. Box 2921  
Kuwait, Kuwait      Cable Address: ALSUNDUK

Kingdom of the Netherlands:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Lange Houtstraat, 27  
The Hague  
Netherlands

United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland:

Ministry of Overseas Development  
Eland House, Stag Place  
London SW1E 5DH  
England      Cable Address: MINISTRANT

United States of America:

United States Agency for  
International Development  
State Department  
320 21st Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20523  
United States of America      Cable Address: USAID

For the following organizations:

African Development Bank  
P.O. Box 1387  
Abidjan, Ivory Coast  
Cable Address: AFDEV

International Bank for  
Reconstruction and Development  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
United States of America  
Cable Address: INTBAFRAD

International Development Association  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
United States of America  
Cable Address: INDEVAS

United Nations Development  
Programme  
866 United Nations Plaza  
New York, New York 10017  
United States of America  
Cable Address: UNDEVPRO

World Health Organization  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland  
Cable Address: UNISANTE

#### **ARTICLE IX**

##### **Inconsistency with the Other Agreements**

Section 9.01. If any provision of this Agreement is inconsistent with a provision of any other Agreement relating to the Programme, the provision of this Agreement shall govern.

#### **ARTICLE X**

##### **Signature and Entry into Force**

Section 10.01. This Agreement shall remain open for signature and acceptance on behalf of all the Parties named in the Preamble to this Agreement until June 30, 1975, or such later date as may be fixed by the Bank by notice to the other said Parties.

Section 10.02. (a) This Agreement shall enter into force on the date when it shall have been signed without reservation as to the acceptance by not less than ten of the Parties named in the Preamble to this Agreement. The Bank shall, on such date, notify all the Parties named in such Preamble.

(b) This Agreement shall take effect in respect of any other Party named in the Preamble to this Agreement or any other Party, on: (i) the date on which each such Party shall sign it without reservation, or (ii) if such Party has signed it with reservation as to acceptance, on the date on which such Party shall have notified the Bank of its acceptance. The Bank shall promptly after such date notify each of the other Parties.

DONE at Washington, D.C., in two original copies, one in the English language and the other in the French language, both texts being equally authentic, to be deposited in the archives of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which shall communicate certified copies thereof to each of the Parties signatory to this Agreement.

KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

By /s/ W. Van Cauwenberg

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

CANADA

By /s/ C. Isbister

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

By /s/ J. Wahl

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

With reservation as to the acceptance

By /s/ N. Hansen

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

JAPAN

By

*Authorized Representative*

Dated , 1975

KUWAIT

By /s/ J. Al-Hassani

Dated May 7 , 1975

KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

By

*Authorized Representative*

Dated , 1975



UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND

By /s/ R. Browning

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7, 1975

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By /s/ D. Parker

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7, 1975

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

By

*Authorized Representative*

Dated , 1975

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

By /s/ R. S. McNamara

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7, 1975

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By /s/ R. S. McNamara

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

By /s/ I. G. Patel

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

By /s/ L. Bernard

*Authorized Representative*

Dated May 7 , 1975

**ANNEX I**  
**Plan of Action**

	<i>Total</i> <i>(US\$ equivalent)</i>
<i>Annual Costs</i>	
Programme Headquarters	4,204,200
Vector Control Operations	27,976,700
Epidemiological Evaluation	2,621,800
Technical Support and Liaison:	
WHO HQ and regional office	3,516,300
FAO HQ and regional office	448,600
Research Contracts and Training	5,401,500
Total Annual Costs	44,169,100
<i>Capital Items</i>	
Buildings	1,420,000
Furniture	118,000
Vehicles	1,787,700
Technical Equipment	668,900
Total Capital Items	3,994,600
Sub-Total	48,163,700
<i>Contingency</i>	5,509,300
TOTAL	53,673,000





**ANNEX II**

**AGREEMENT**

**GOVERNING THE OPERATIONS OF  
THE ONCHOCERCIASIS CONTROL PROGRAMME  
IN THE VOLTA RIVER BASIN AREA**

The Governments of Dahomey, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Togo and Upper Volta, (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Participating Governments") and the World Health Organization, (hereinafter referred to as "WHO");

Considering that onchocerciasis, through the eyesight disorders it causes and the impairment of the physical condition of its victims, is one of the chief obstacles to the settlement and exploitation of the uninhabited fertile valleys of the Volta River Basin area in the territories of the Participating Governments;

Considering the strategy proposed in the Report of the Preparatory Assistance Mission to the Participating Governments for a Programme of Onchocerciasis Control in the Volta River Basin area and to prepare the way for the economic development of the reclaimed areas;

Considering the findings and conclusions of the Inter-Governmental Meeting held at State House, Accra, Ghana, from 30 October to 1 November 1973;

HAVE AGREED to conclude the following Operational Agreement for an Onchocerciasis Control Programme in the Volta River Basin area.

PART I

INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAMME AREA

1. Introduction

The Onchocerciasis Control Programme in the Volta River Basin area, (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme"), is planned as a collaborative undertaking between the Participating Governments to be carried out with agencies of the United Nations System and the support of the international community.

The Programme will be executed through management structures proposed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and WHO (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Sponsoring Agencies").

The Participating Governments undertake to provide the Programme with full support and, upon the withdrawal of international assistance at the conclusion of the Programme, to consolidate and maintain its achievements in the public health and socio-economic development sectors.

The overall strategy for the Programme is set out in the Report of the Preparatory Assistance Mission to Governments (PAG) which was implemented by WHO, in association with FAO, and financed by UNDP, from 1971 to 1973, following the request of the Participating Governments.

Within the context of the twenty year Programme which it fully supports and the estimated cost of which is about US\$ 120 million, based on 1973 costings and exchange rates, IBRD has undertaken to use its best efforts to mobilize international resources in an amount estimated at about US\$ 41 million to finance the initial six year phase.

WHO has agreed to execute the Programme, in co-operation with the Participating Governments and in association with UNDP and FAO, which Agencies will assist in preparing the ground for the subsequent economic development projects. The Sponsoring Agencies are concluding the necessary interagency coordination agreements for the Programme.

2. Programme Area

In order to ensure the protection of as large and homogeneous a zone as possible at reasonable cost, taking into account the economic development potential of the areas concerned, the prevalence and clinical severity of onchocerciasis and the long flight range of the vector, Simulium damnosum, the northern boundary of the Programme area is set as the northern limit of the distribution of the vector and the southern boundary as the Volta and Kossou lakes. The eastern and western boundaries are those of the catchment areas situated between these two parallels.

In the north-west the area begins where the river Niger enters Mali and in the north-east it ends where the same river leaves Dahomey and Niger. It comprises the basins of the following watercourses:



In Mali

- right-bank tributaries of the Niger: Fié, Sankarani, La Faya, etc.;
- Baoulé, Bagoé and Banifing as far as their confluence;
- tributaries of the Bani, but not the Bani itself.

In Upper Volta

- Black Volta, Red Volta, White Volta, Oti-Pendjari, Comoé-Léraba and their tributaries;
- tributaries of the Niger in Upper Volta.

In Ivory Coast

- tributaries of the Niger;
- White Bandama and its tributaries as far as Lake Kossou;
- Nzi as far as the Katiola-Dabakala road;
- Comoé and its tributaries north of the eighth parallel;
- Black Volta.

In Ghana

- Black Volta, Red Volta, White Volta, Daka, Oti, Mô and their tributaries as far as Lake Volta, excluding the right-bank tributaries of the Black Volta downstream from Bamboi.

In Togo

- Oti-Pendjari and its tributaries, as far as Lake Volta;
- Mô and its tributaries.

In Dahomey

- Oti-Pendjari and its tributaries;
- tributaries of the Niger.

In Niger

right-bank tributaries of the Niger.

PART II

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the Onchocerciasis Control Programme is to eliminate the disease as an obstacle to socio-economic development in the region concerned. More specifically, the objectives of the Programme will be as follows:

1. Immediate objectives

The immediate objectives of the Programme will be to interrupt transmission of the disease by eliminating the vector through periodic aerial applications of larvicides involving no risk of lasting contamination of the environment, to implement the applied research and training programmes required for pursuing the long-term objectives of the Programme and to help the Participating Governments in preparing requests to multilateral and bilateral sources for the subsequent socio-economic development of the fertile areas freed from the disease.

The interruption of transmission of the disease will involve:

- organization of aerial larvicide applications;
- entomological surveillance of the treated areas;
- epidemiological evaluation of the results of the Programme;
- permanent monitoring of the long-term safety of the operations for the environment;
- preparation of treatment schedules for onchocerciasis patients, so that the parasite Onchocerca volvulus can be eliminated from subjects already infected and threatened with imminent blindness.

2. Long-term objectives

In the progressive elimination of the disease and the development of the reclaimed areas, the Programme will comprise applied research and manpower training components guaranteeing a high level of operational effectiveness and the training of the national personnel necessary for the proper execution of the Programme and the subsequent maintenance operations.

While covering the continuation of control operations against the vector, the Programme will provide for substantial development of activities in the field of onchocerciasis chemotherapy. The interruption of transmission of the disease, combined with the systematic treatment of inhabitants infested by the parasite will thus permit the development of the reclaimed fertile valleys while decreasing the recurrent cost of disease control to be borne by the Participating Governments.

The Programme will provide training for personnel at all levels in Simulium control, in the epidemiology and chemotherapy of the disease, in aerial treatment, and in environmental protection.

PART III

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

The arrangements set forth below and as outlined in the structural chart included as Figure 1 at the end of this Part will form the basis for the management of the Programme.

1. Consultation and Coordination

1.1 National Committees for Onchocerciasis

As the major coordinating element at government level, a National Onchocerciasis Committee will be set up in each country as soon as possible before May 1974, the date when the first entomological surveillance networks are due to start operating.

Each Committee, comprising qualified representatives of the main national services concerned, will be invested with authority enabling it to act at the highest level and to command appropriate resources for:

- (a) coordinating the action of all national services involved in the Programme and in the subsequent economic development projects;
- (b) ensuring liaison between the Government and Programme headquarters;
- (c) preparing and organizing a large-scale campaign to inform the population of the existence, methods and aims of the Programme;
- (d) preparing the legislation and regulations required for the smooth running of the Programme, settlement, plans, and the economic development projects;
- (e) encouraging studies in preparation for the development of the reclaimed areas;
- (f) taking all appropriate measures to ensure that the results achieved at the end of the Programme are maintained;
- (g) providing liaison with the National Committees of the other countries concerned.

The Programme Director will be closely associated with the coordination of the work of the different National Onchocerciasis Committees. The local representatives of the Sponsoring Agencies may be associated with the work of the respective National Onchocerciasis Committees in an advisory capacity.

1.2 Co-operation and Consultation

Without prejudice to the arrangements referred to in paragraph 6 of this Part, consultations between the Participating Governments, the Sponsoring Agencies and such other parties as may be appropriate may be held at the request of any one of the signatories to this Agreement or at the request of the Steering Committee.

## 2. Steering Committee

The Steering Committee set up in April 1972 by the executive heads of UNDP, FAO, IBRD and WHO and composed of representatives of the executive heads of these four Sponsoring Agencies will continue to act as the organ for the guidance and co-ordination of action by the Sponsoring Agencies with respect to the Programme. Its duties will be inter alia, to study and approve the work plans and budgets prepared by the Executing Agency. It will supervise the implementation of the Programme and provide advice on its execution.

The Steering Committee will meet at least three times a year in the initial phase of the Programme.

In approving plans of work, the Steering Committee will take into account the recommendations of the Ecological Panel.

## 3. Ecological Panel

The Ecological Panel will comprise a small group of experts with wide experience in river basin ecology, the effects of development processes on river basins, in the epidemiology of diseases in river basins and the ecological effects of pesticides.

It will study the ecological problems connected with the Programme and with the associated economic development projects. It will propose to the Steering Committee such measures as may be needed to supplement the ecological studies undertaken under the Programme and will make recommendations to ensure effective protection of the environment.

## 4. Executing Agency

WHO, as the Executing Agency, will, in consultation with the Participating Governments, appoint a Programme Director and assign other international staff and other personnel to the Programme as specified in the plans of work. It will provide the Programme with permanent technical and administrative assistance, and will be responsible for the work plans and budgets and for the implementation of the Programme as approved by the Steering Committee.

The Executing Agency will be assisted in its work by a Scientific Advisory Panel.

## 5. UNDP and Associate Agencies

The UNDP, through FAO as Associate Agency or through other agencies or directly, will consider financing, with resources available in UNDP regional or national country programmes, complementary activities as may be requested by the Participating Governments in the field of economic development.

Within these arrangements and in close liaison with the National Onchocerciasis Committees, UNDP and the Associate Agencies will study the technical problems presented by the economic development of the areas that have been or are to be freed from the disease and will also give technical assistance to the Programme's Economic Development Unit.

## 6. Special Fund for Onchocerciasis

The principal source of financing for the Programme as a whole is to consist of contributions by certain governments and institutions to an Onchocerciasis Fund, to be administered by IBRD under arrangements to be concluded between the governments and institutions concerned, and the Sponsoring Agencies.

## 7. Programme Director

The Programme Director will be responsible for field operations. He will be stationed at the headquarters of the Programme which will be situated at Ouagadougou, Upper Volta. He will receive permanent technical and administrative assistance from WHO (Regional Office for Africa and Headquarters) as Executing Agency, and from FAO, as Associate Agency.

Operational problems submitted to the Executing Agency by the National Onchocerciasis Committees will be channelled through the office of the Programme Director.

Within his own office there will be a unit responsible for external relations and information, and initially he will be assisted by the following specialized sections as well as by an Economic Development Unit.

### 7.1 Simulium Control Operations Section

This Section will plan, have carried out, and supervise the control operations against the vectors of onchocerciasis and will be responsible for studies on the protection of the environment. It will define the associated applied research and personnel training activities that are necessary for the effective implementation of these operations.

### 7.2 Epidemiology Section

The Onchocerciasis Epidemiology and Public Health Section will plan, have carried out, and supervise the epidemiological evaluation of the Programme and define the associated applied research and personnel training activities in connexion with the chemotherapy of onchocerciasis and the parasitological and clinical evaluation of the control operations. At the request of national authorities, this Section will define the specific health problems of the areas to be reclaimed and provide technical advice on the measures to be taken to provide effective medical protection for the populations to be settled there.

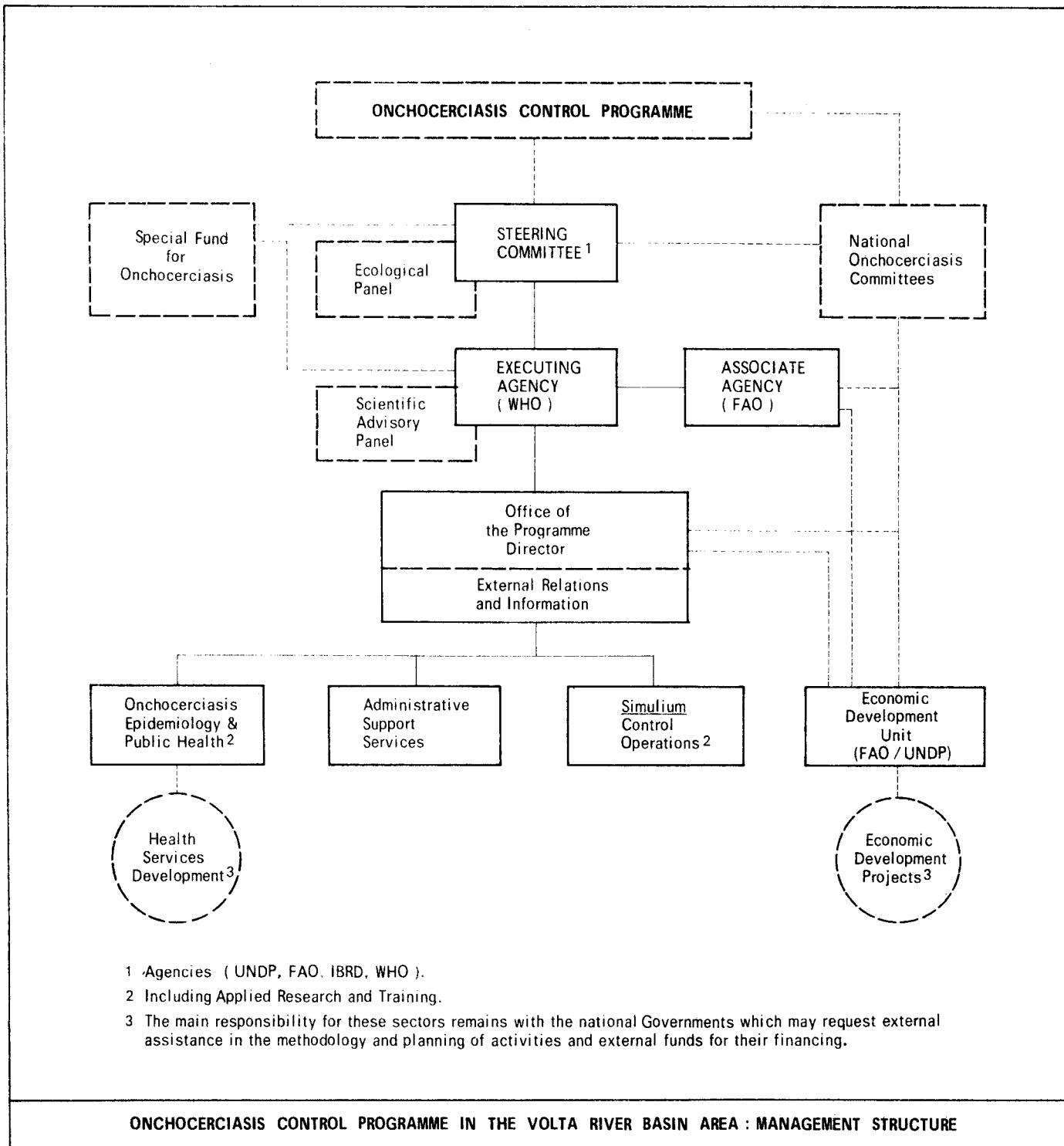
### 7.3 Administrative Section

The Administrative Support Services Section will provide the necessary administrative support for the implementation of the Programme in the field and will manage the joint technical and logistic services. In liaison with the appropriate services of the agencies sponsoring the Programme, this Section will prepare the documents concerning recruitment, supplies, and contractual services for the Programme or will provide the basic data so that these documents can be prepared.

8. Economic Development Unit

The Economic Development Unit will serve as the focal point for the exchange of information with respect to national actions in the developmental aspects of the programme, for which purpose it will maintain close liaison with the National Committees for Onchocerciasis. Subject to the arrangements referred to in paragraph 6 of this Part, the unit will assist the Programme Director in identifying economic development projects which might be the object of further study and consideration by the governments and institutions responsible for the financing and carrying out of the necessary pre-investment studies.

FIGURE 1



PART IV

PROGRAMME EXECUTION

The Programme will be launched in 1974 as a joint undertaking, the realization of which will require the full collaboration of each of the Participating Governments and of the agencies responsible for its execution and financing. The strategy as described in detail in the Report of the PAG Mission (Document OCP/73.1 dated 20 August 1973) and in the technical annexes to that report (Annexes V-2, V-3, V-4, V-5 and V-6) will serve as the strategy of the Programme, subject to such adaptations as may reveal themselves necessary in the light of operating experience.

Each of the Participating Governments concerned undertakes to give high priority throughout the duration of the Programme to onchocerciasis control and to the development and settlement of the reclaimed areas. The health services and the national and/or federal research institutes of these countries will contribute to the basic and applied research that is necessary for the proper execution of the Programme and will help to train the required numbers of national specialists.

Each of the Governments undertakes to cooperate unreservedly, with the Executing and Associate Agencies so that the Programme can be carried out under the optimum conditions.

1. Contributions of the Participating Governments

The specific contributions of each Participating Government, in cash and/or in kind, will be fixed by joint agreement between the Government and the Executing Agency in special protocols covering operations in each country. These protocols will constitute an integral part of this Agreement and be subject to its general provisions.

2. Phasing of operations

On account of the many problems of logistics, establishment of infrastructure and staff training that will arise from the start of the Programme, the introduction of vector control operations will be phased over a period of three years from 1974 to 1976. To ensure the continuity of the control operations, and at the same time to make use of the knowledge of the terrain already available, operations will start in 1974 in the area covered by the FED/OCCGE<sup>1</sup> onchocerciasis control campaign. The work will be scheduled in three main phases:

Phase I: will cover the basins of the Black Volta, the Comoé-Léraba, the Bandama and the Banifing, together with the isolated onchocerciasis focus of Bandiagara. The implementation of this phase will mean the immediate involvement of Ghana, Ivory Coast, Mali and Upper Volta.

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<sup>1</sup> European Development Fund/Organization for Coordination and Cooperation in the Control of the Major Endemic Diseases.



Phase II: will commence in 1975 with control operations being extended to the basins of the Red Volta, the White Volta and the Daka, belonging to the Volta Basin proper.

Phase III: will commence in 1976 and will complete the coverage of the Programme area by incorporating the Oti-Pendjari and Mô basins, situated in Dahomey, Ghana and Togo, and the basins of the southern tributaries of the Niger situated in Dahomey, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger and Upper Volta. The experience obtained during the first two phases of the Programme will be used in solving problems that may arise on account of the uneven relief of the eastern part of this area and on account of the considerable flow of some of these rivers in the middle of the rainy season.

Vector control operations will be initiated at the end of the rainy season when there is a natural drop in the vector population.

### 3. Larvicidal treatment

Vector control will be based on the periodic application of insecticides, generally by air, immediately upstream from the larval breeding-places.

Aerial application of insecticides will require four to eight aircraft (fixed wing and helicopters), depending on the season, to cover the entire region once Phase III of the programme has started. The general treatment plan, specifying the daily task of each aircraft according to the day of the week and the season, will be adjusted to the meteorological and hydrological conditions on the basis of information obtained at each point in the area and transmitted by radio to the Programme headquarters.

The arrangements concerning treatment will be flexible. The central and northern parts of the Programme area, protected from reinfestation by the treatment of the region further south may require only sporadic treatment. The western and eastern boundaries and more particularly the southern part of the Programme area, may require continuous treatment. All unusual meteorological conditions will be followed by supplementary geographical investigations and, if necessary, additional treatment.

The flight range of the aircraft used, will enable the treatment teams during periodic maintenance operations, to use the existing facilities of well-equipped aerodromes. For daily maintenance operations, the teams will mainly use existing airstrips and it will only rarely be necessary to establish a new base of any size. The bases it is planned to use are shown in Table 1 at the end of this Part.

### 4. Entomological surveillance

Initially, the entomological surveillance network will comprise seven sectors, each entrusted to an entomologist, and 24 subsectors run by suitably trained technicians (Table 2, at the end of this Part). It will have a flexible structure that will be revised according to operational needs as the Programme progresses.

The network will come into action several months prior to the start of treatment operations in order to carry out a final investigation of the Programme area. The entomological surveillance teams will observe the density and distribution of the vector and will record data on the flow of watercourses harbouring the vector larvae. This information will be passed on to the Programme headquarters by the swiftest means, including radio.

During the operations, only larval breeding-places actually harbouring the vector will be treated.

During the first three years of the Programme the entomological surveillance network will be strengthened in order to provide a preliminary epidemiological assessment of the operations by determining, in representative sections of the area, the trends in residual transmission and the risks incurred by individuals settling in the uninhabited valleys.

#### 5. Epidemiological assessment

The epidemiological assessment will be based on periodic examination of the inhabitants of some 150 indicator villages distributed throughout the Volta River Basin area in order to determine the parasitological and clinical changes occurring during the implementation of the Programme, both in the present inhabitants of the area and in new arrivals.

Standardized examination methods will be used during the initial surveys and after that surveys will be carried out every three years. This assessment will be carried out by two parasitologists and two ophthalmologists on a full-time basis.

#### 6. Applied research

The continuity of the Programme operations and the continuous improvement of methodology will be ensured by an applied research programme, mainly covering the following points:

- vector biology and sampling of vector populations;
- development and evaluation of insecticides and formulations;
- specialized spraying equipment;
- protection of non-target fauna and the environment;
- epidemiology and chemotherapy of onchocerciasis.

Research involving human subjects carried out under the Programme will be designed, administered and operated in such a fashion that the rights of the subjects shall not be infringed, that their welfare shall be protected and that the potential benefits of such investigations shall justify whatever risks may be inherent in them.

#### 7. Training

Training activities aimed both at solving the problems of recruitment at all levels and at ensuring the use of a standardized methodology throughout all studies and surveys will also form an important component of the Programme. They will take into account the need to

strengthen the staff by personnel originating from the Programme area so that such personnel can gradually take over the responsibility for surveys and operations and eventually the running of the Programme itself.

8. Scientific advisers

An Ecological Panel and a Scientific Advisory Panel, attached respectively to the Steering Committee and to the Executing Agency, will provide advice on the measures to be taken to ensure that the operations are fully effective and to guarantee satisfactory protection of the environment.

9. Distribution of activities and budget

Except in special cases, insecticide treatments, activities in applied research and the training of specialist staff will be carried out on a sub-contracting basis, while the Programme headquarters will assume direct responsibility for the activities of the entomological surveillance network and the epidemiological assessment teams. An indication of the estimated costs for each year and each major operating period is given in Table 3 at the end of this Part for the whole duration of the Programme, namely for the period 1974-1993.

10. Support of the Executing Agency and Associate Agency

The onchocerciasis control operations will receive the constant support of the Headquarters and Regional Office for Africa of WHO; assistance to Governments in preparing and presenting economic development projects will, within available resources, be provided by UNDP and FAO, in close collaboration with the Economic Development Unit of the Programme.

TABLE 1. TIMETABLE FOR PROVISION OF THE BUILDINGS AND MAJOR EQUIPMENT THAT WILL FORM THE SERVICE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE S. DAMNOSUM CONTROL CAMPAIGN IN THE VOLTA RIVER BASIN

Year	Sector store	Aircraft hangar	Fixed radio station*	Mobile radio station**	Field accommodation and field store	Field fuel store***	Mobile workshop for helicopters
1974	Bobo Dioulasso Tamale Korhogo	Bobo Dioulasso	Ouagadougou Bobo Dioulasso Korhogo Bouna Wa	Ouagadougou (2) Tamale Korhogo	Banfara Bondoukou Diébougou Koutiala Sikasso Wango Fitini		Bobo Dioulasso
1975	Ouagadougou	Tamale			Bolgatanga Mole Navrongo Wa	Boromo Bamboi Bouna Dabakala Yendi	
1976	Bamako Natitingou Niamey Sokodé	Bamako Sokodé	Bamako Natitingou Niamey Sokodé Dapango Kandi Pama Sikasso	Natitingou Sokodé	Arly Bougouni Boundiali Dapango Kandi Natitingou	Odienné Pankourou	Sokodé

\* HF transmitter-receivers.

\*\* HF and VHF transmitter-receivers.

\*\*\* Also insecticide store at Boromo.

\* Fixed radio station at Ouagadougou with two operators.